

Message Text

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44

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-15 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-15

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 OMB-01

DRC-01 /188 W

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R 091734Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1212

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, IT

SUBJECT: EXPORT SUBSIDIES--ITALIAN LAW 639

REF: ROME A-568 (NOT SENT BRUSSELS OR GENEVA)

1. EMBOFF CALLED ON MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) REP OCTOBER 5 TO DISCUSS LEGISLATIVE STATUS OF GOI PROPOSAL TO REVISE LAW 639. MFA REP LIGUORI SAID REVISED LAW 639 HAD PASSED CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES AND WAS NOW BEFORE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF SENATE, WHERE ACTION WAS ANTICIPATED IN NEXT FEW WEEKS. HE EXPECTS SENATE TO MAKE NO RPT NO CHANGES IN THE PROPOSAL.

2. LIGOURI NOTED SENATE APPROVAL NEEDED SOON OR GOI MIGHT FIND ITSELF IN TROUBLE WITH EC AGAIN FOR MAINTAINING PROVISIONS OF LAW 639 WHICH ARE CONTRARY TO EC REGULATIONS.

3. LIGOURI INDICATED LAW 639 MIGHT BE "NEGOTIABLE" ITEM IN MTN. EMBOFF DID NOT RESPOND TO HIS SUGGESTION.

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4. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON COMMENTS ON REVISED
VERSION LAW 639 (TRANSMITTED REFAIRGRAM) AFTER WASHINGTON AGENCIES
HAVE HAD OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY CHANGES IN AMOUNTS PAYABLE TO ITALIAN
EXPORTERS.

5. EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT PERHAPS EASIEST WAY TO RESOLVE LONG-
STANDING US-ITALIAN DISPUTE OVER LAW 639 WOULD BE TO FOLD IT INTO
MTN NTB NEGOTIATIONS, ON CLEAR UNDERSTANDING THAT NO RPT NO
RECIPROCAL CONCESSION IS REQUIRED FROM US. MULTILATERAL FRAMEWORK
WOULD MINIMIZE GOI'S DOMESTIC POLITICAL PROBLEMS WHILE ACHIEVING
US OBJECTIVE. BEAUDRY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: collinp0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973ROME10849
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731043/aaaabfqm.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: ROME A-568 (NOT SENT BRUSSELS OR GEN, EVA)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Sep-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <21 FEB 2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXPORT SUBSIDIES--ITALIAN LAW 639
TAGS: ETRD, IT, GATT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005